

**AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS**

Claims 1-51. (Cancelled)

52. (New) A method comprising:  
capturing intellectual property asset data for a group of companies;  
identifying a plurality of companies from the group of companies based at least on the intellectual property asset data;  
capturing market data for the plurality of companies;  
calculating an intellectual property index based at least on the market data for the plurality of companies; and  
updating the intellectual property index periodically.
53. (New) The method of claim 52, wherein the group of companies comprises a plurality of companies in substantially the same industry.
54. (New) The method of claim 52, wherein the group of companies comprises a plurality of companies having a particular market capitalization.
55. (New) The method of claim 52, wherein the plurality of companies are identified based at least on a value associated with an intellectual property asset portfolio for each of the plurality of companies.
56. (New) The method of claim 55, wherein each of the intellectual property asset portfolios comprises at least one patent and wherein the value associated with each portfolio is based at least on a number of citations to the at least one patent by a national patent office.
57. (New) The method of claim 55, wherein each of the intellectual property asset portfolios comprises at least one patent and wherein the value associated with each portfolio is based at least on a number of patents issued to the company by a national patent office.

58. (New) The method of claim 55, wherein each of the intellectual property asset portfolios comprises at least one patent and wherein the value associated with each portfolio is based at least on the age of the at least one patent.

59. (New) The method of claim 55, wherein each of the intellectual property asset portfolios comprises at least one patent and wherein the value associated with each portfolio is based at least on litigation results associated with the at least one patent.

60. (New) The method of claim 55, wherein the value associated with an intellectual property asset portfolio is determined based on at least one of licensing contracts and revenues.

61. (New) The method of claim 52, wherein the market data comprises a stock price for each of the plurality of companies.

62. (New) The method of claim 52, comprising receiving a plurality of orders for at least one derivative financial instrument that comprises at least one term associated with the intellectual property index and executing a trade for the at least one derivative financial instrument.

63. (New) The method of claim 62, wherein the at least one derivative financial instrument comprises one of an option contract and a futures contract.

64. (New) The method of claim 62, wherein the at least one term associated with the intellectual property index comprises a strike price.

65. (New) A method comprising:  
capturing market data for a plurality of companies, each of the plurality of companies identified from a group of companies based at least on intellectual property asset data for the group of companies;  
calculating an intellectual property index based at least on the market data for the plurality of companies;

receiving a plurality of order for at least one derivative financial instrument that comprises at least one term associated with the intellectual property index; and  
executing a trade for the at least one derivative financial instrument.

66. (New) The method of claim 65, wherein the group of companies comprises a plurality of companies in substantially the same industry.

67. (New) The method of claim 65, wherein the group of companies comprises a plurality of companies having a particular market capitalization.

68. (New) The method of claim 65, wherein the plurality of companies are identified based at least on a value associated with an intellectual property asset portfolio for each of the plurality of companies.

69. (New) The method of claim 68, wherein each of the intellectual property asset portfolios comprises at least one patent and wherein the value associated with each portfolio is based at least on a number of citations to the at least one patent by a national patent office.

70. (New) The method of claim 68, wherein each of the intellectual property asset portfolios comprises at least one patent and wherein the value associated with each portfolio is based at least on a number of patents issued to the company by a national patent office.

71. (New) The method of claim 68, wherein each of the intellectual property asset portfolios comprises at least one patent and wherein the value associated with each portfolio is based at least on the age of the at least one patent.

72. (New) The method of claim 68, wherein each of the intellectual property asset portfolios comprises at least one patent and wherein the value associated with each portfolio is based at least on litigation results associated with the at least one patent.

73. (New) The method of claim 68, wherein the value associated with an intellectual property asset portfolio is determined based on at least one of licensing contracts and revenues.

74. (New) The method of claim 65, wherein the market data comprises a stock price for each of the plurality of companies.

75. (New) A system comprising at least one computing device having software associated therewith that when executed performs a method comprising:  
capturing intellectual property asset data for a group of companies;  
identifying a plurality of companies from the group of companies based at least on the intellectual property asset data;  
capturing market data for the plurality of companies;  
calculating an intellectual property index based at least on the market data for the plurality of companies; and  
updating the intellectual property index periodically.

76. (New) The system of claim 75, wherein the group of companies comprises a plurality of companies in substantially the same industry.

77. (New) The system of claim 75, wherein the group of companies comprises a plurality of companies having a particular market capitalization.

78. (New) The system of claim 75, wherein the plurality of companies are identified based at least on a value associated with an intellectual property asset portfolio for each of the plurality of companies.

79. (New) The system of claim 78, wherein each of the intellectual property asset portfolios comprises at least one patent and wherein the value associated with each portfolio is based at least on a number of citations to the at least one patent by a national patent office.

80. (New) The system of claim 78, wherein each of the intellectual property asset portfolios comprises at least one patent and wherein the value associated with each portfolio is based at least on a number of patents issued to the company by a national patent office.

81. (New) The system of claim 78, wherein each of the intellectual property asset portfolios comprises at least one patent and wherein the value associated with each portfolio is based at least on the age of the at least one patent.

82. (New) The system of claim 78, wherein each of the intellectual property asset portfolios comprises at least one patent and wherein the value associated with each portfolio is based at least on litigation results associated with the at least one patent.

83. (New) The system of claim 78, wherein the value associated with an intellectual property asset portfolio is determined based on at least one of licensing contracts and revenues.

84. (New) The system of claim 75, wherein the market data comprises a stock price for each of the plurality of companies.

85. (New) The system of claim 75, the method comprising receiving a plurality of orders for at least one derivative financial instrument that comprises at least one term associated with the intellectual property index and executing a trade for the at least one derivative financial instrument.

86. (New) The system of claim 85, wherein the at least one derivative financial instrument comprises one of an option contract and a futures contract.

87. (New) The system of claim 85, wherein the at least one term associated with the intellectual property index comprises a strike price.

88. (New) A system comprising at least one computing device having software associated therewith that when executed performs a method comprising:

capturing market data for a plurality of companies, each of the plurality of companies identified from a group of companies based at least on intellectual property asset data for the group of companies;

calculating an intellectual property index based at least on the market data for the plurality of companies;

receiving a plurality of order for at least one derivative financial instrument that comprises at least one term associated with the intellectual property index; and  
executing a trade for the at least one derivative financial instrument.

89. (New) The system of claim 88, wherein the group of companies comprises a plurality of companies in substantially the same industry.

90. (New) The system of claim 88, wherein the group of companies comprises a plurality of companies having a particular market capitalization.

91. (New) The system of claim 88, wherein the plurality of companies are identified based at least on a value associated with an intellectual property asset portfolio for each of the plurality of companies.

92. (New) The system of claim 91, wherein each of the intellectual property asset portfolios comprises at least one patent and wherein the value associated with each portfolio is based at least on a number of citations to the at least one patent by a national patent office.

93. (New) The system of claim 91, wherein each of the intellectual property asset portfolios comprises at least one patent and wherein the value associated with each portfolio is based at least on a number of patents issued to the company by a national patent office.

94. (New) The system of claim 91, wherein each of the intellectual property asset portfolios comprises at least one patent and wherein the value associated with each portfolio is based at least on the age of the at least one patent.

95. (New) The system of claim 91, wherein each of the intellectual property asset portfolios comprises at least one patent and wherein the value associated with each portfolio is based at least on litigation results associated with the at least one patent.

96. (New) The system of claim 91, wherein the value associated with an intellectual property asset portfolio is determined based on at least one of licensing contracts and revenues.

97. (New) The system of claim 88, wherein the market data comprises a stock price for each of the plurality of companies.